## CLAIMS LISTING:

- 1. (cancelled.
- 2. (original) An electro-surgical apparatus, comprising: an electrode with a cutting edge; and

a housing coupled to the electrode and including a top with a top proximal section and a bottom with a bottom proximal section, the top proximal section having a geometry that facilitates creation of a skin flap with a substantially uniform thickness that includes a skin layer and an adjacent layer of subcutaneous tissue, the bottom proximal section having a geometry that preserves a plane of tissue that is positioned adjacent to the adjacent layer of subcutaneous tissue

- 3. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the housing includes a gap between the top proximal section and the bottom proximal section.
- 4. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the housing includes a chamber that facilitates creation of the skin flap.
  - 5. 13. (cancelled).
  - 14. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising: an insulator coupled to at least a portion of the electrode.
  - 15. 35. (cancelled).